

Arlington Minuteman Bikeway Planning Project

Department of Planning and Community Development

June 29, 2022





Agenda

Introductions and Instructions	5 min
--------------------------------	-------

Revisiting Project Purpose & Timeline	5 min
---------------------------------------	-------

Overview of Final Plan Elements	15 min
---------------------------------	--------

Implementation Plan & Recommendations	30 min
---------------------------------------	--------

Q&A	30 min
-----	--------

Wrap-up	5 min
---------	-------

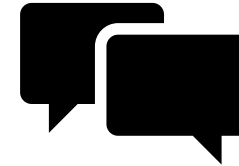
Zoom Meeting Guidelines



Everyone is muted by default. You will have the opportunity to virtually raise your hand and unmute during the Q&A and may be unmuted during breakout sessions.



If you're comfortable, activate your camera to better connect with other attendees. Feel free to use a digital background if you want.



If you have a question or comment during the presentation, enter it in the chat. These will be addressed during the Q&A portion of the presentation.



This meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Town's website.

Zoom 101

- Mute and unmute buttons are in the lower left corner of the Zoom screen
- Raise hand feature: Click on Reactions at the bottom of your screen and choose "Raise Hand". Don't forget to "Lower Hand" once you've been called on.
- If you are calling in by phone, *9 controls mute/unmute and *6 is to raise your hand.

Recap of Project Purpose, Vision, and Goals



Project Purpose



- Identify opportunities to improve safety, comfort, access, and user experience throughout the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington
- Develop an Action Plan for pursuing site-specific improvements
- Develop programmatic strategies for ongoing success

Vision



“The Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington will be a safe, pleasant, and low-stress corridor for active transportation and recreation that is accessible and comfortable for all ages and abilities.”

Supporting Goals



SAFETY

The Bikeway will increase safety by reducing potential for and severity of conflicts between path users and vehicles at intersections, and among path users along the Bikeway and at access points.

COMFORT

The Bikeway will be a low-stress facility that is comfortable for all ages and abilities, open to a suite of modes of active transportation, and available at all times of day and year.

CONNECTIVITY

The Bikeway will be a safe, efficient, and direct off-road connection between neighborhoods, other recreational facilities, rapid transit, local businesses and neighboring cities and towns. The Bikeway will facilitate additional local and regional connections as part of a larger walking and biking network.

COMMUNITY & NATURE

The Bikeway will provide an aesthetically pleasing user experience by providing access to nature, enhancing the open space in which it resides, and fostering a sense of place and community.

Planning Project Report Overview



What is in the plan?



- Existing Conditions Overview
- Vision and Goals
- Policy Recommendations
- Maintenance Recommendations
- Design Recommendations
- Implementation Plan



Policy Recommendations

What is in the plan?



- Discussion of benefits and challenges of policy approaches to:
 - Managing speed
 - Managing demand
- Examples for developing and communicating etiquette policies
- Discussion of policy approaches to coordinating across multiple jurisdictions



Maintenance Recommendations

What is in the plan?



- Guidance on establishing a formalized Bikeway Maintenance Program
- Best practices for managing invasive plant species
- Recommendations for immediate maintenance needs: repaving, vegetation, bridges, and drainage
- Maintenance costs



Identify areas which commonly experience pooling of standing water and remedy with formal drainage treatments

Design Recommendations

What is in the plan?



Design guidance for wayfinding, warning, and regulatory signage

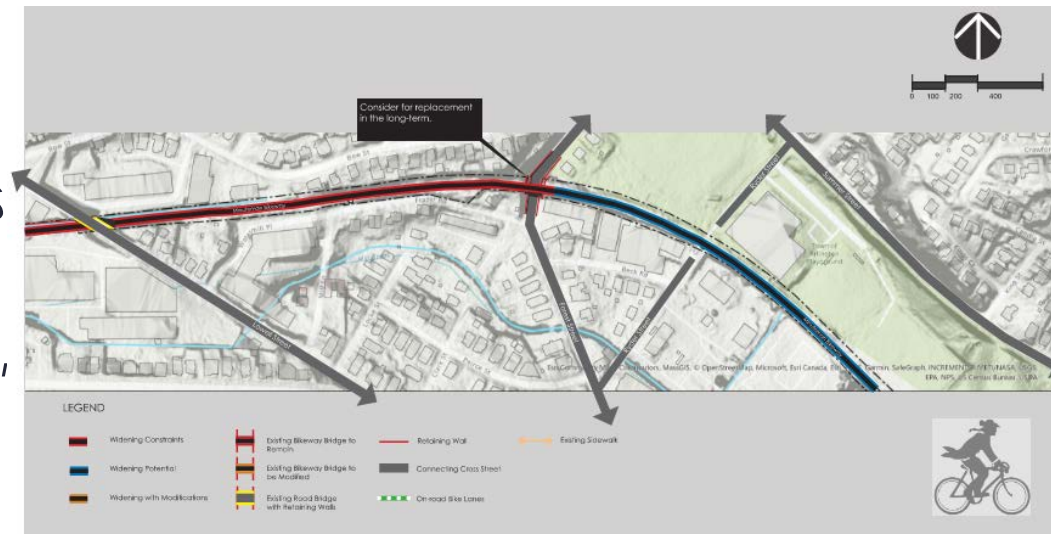


Specific recommendations for

- 5 at-grade crossing trailheads
- 10 waysides and access points

Corridor-wide recommendations for

- Wayfinding applications
- Widening
- Access Points, Waysides, and Trailheads
- Lighting

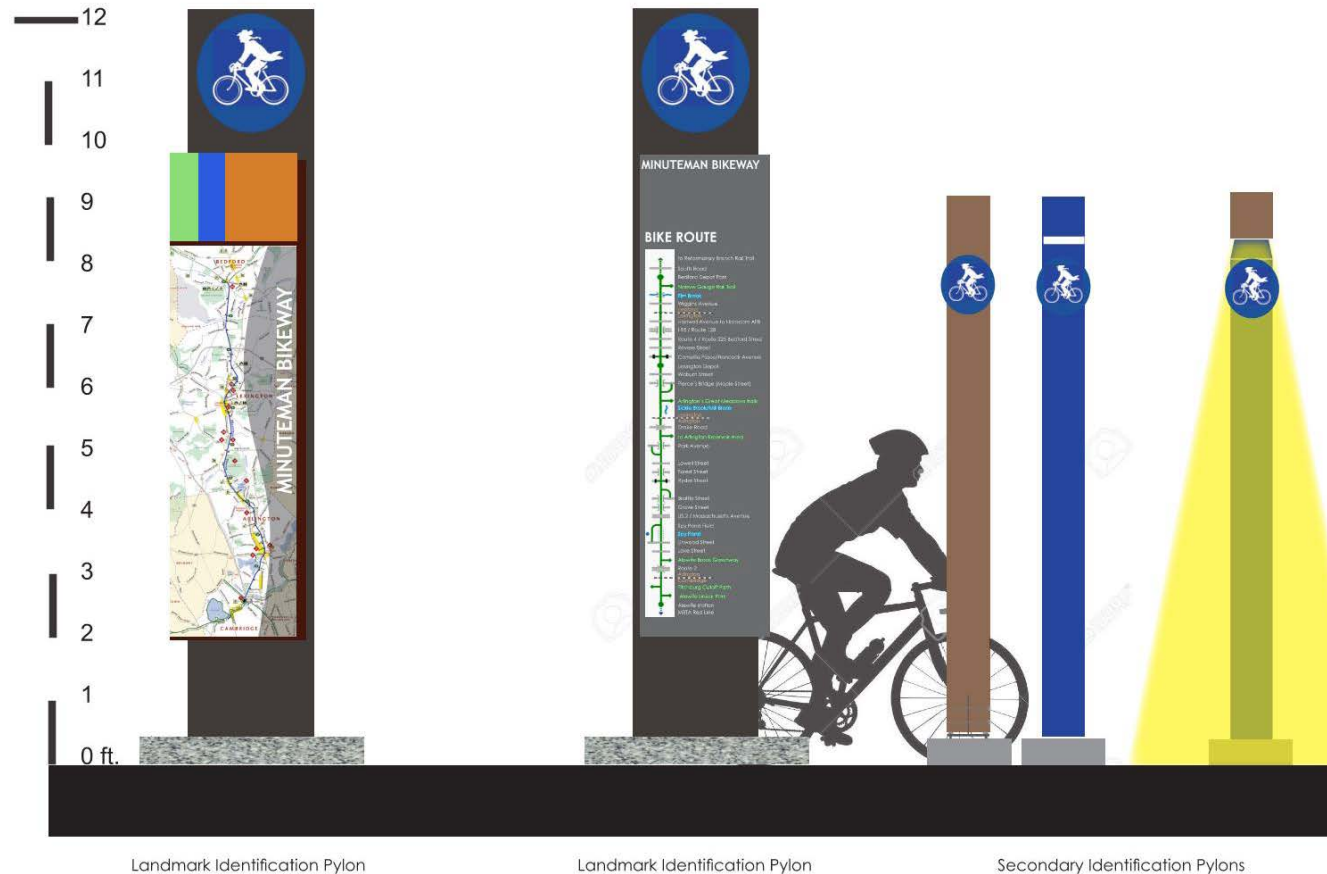


Wayfinding

What is in the plan?



- Guidance on wayfinding types and applications
- Branding opportunities
- Identification of priority corridors for wayfinding to and from the Bikeway
- Corridor-wide recommendations for wayfinding application



Wayfinding

Priority Corridors Example

LEGEND

- Minuteman Bikeway
- Priority Streets
- Mill Brook (open)
- Mill Brook (covered)



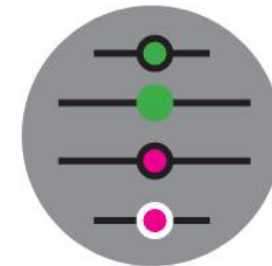
Landmark



Access Point



Open Space/Recreation



At-grade Crossing

At-grade Crossing (no vehicles)

Grade-Separated (w/ access)

Grade-Separated (no access)

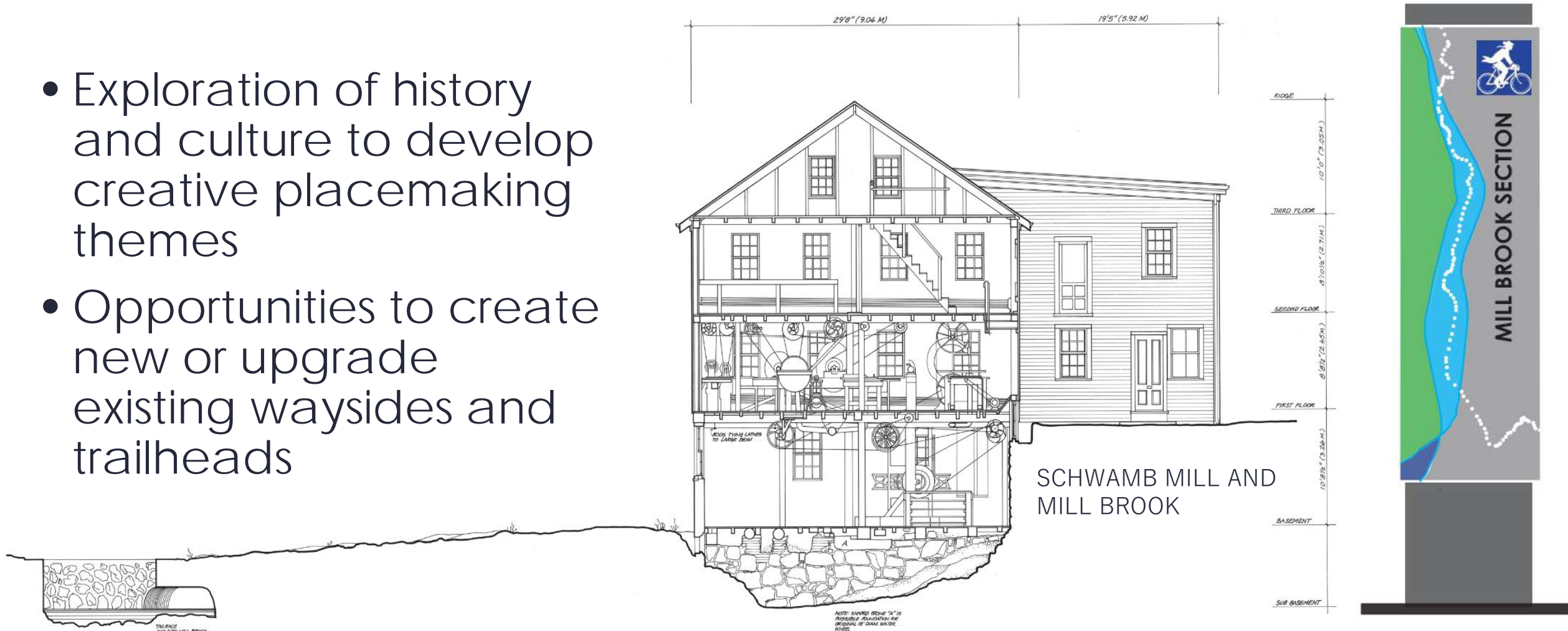


Waysides and Trailheads

What is in the plan?



- Exploration of history and culture to develop creative placemaking themes
- Opportunities to create new or upgrade existing waysides and trailheads



Waysides and Trailheads

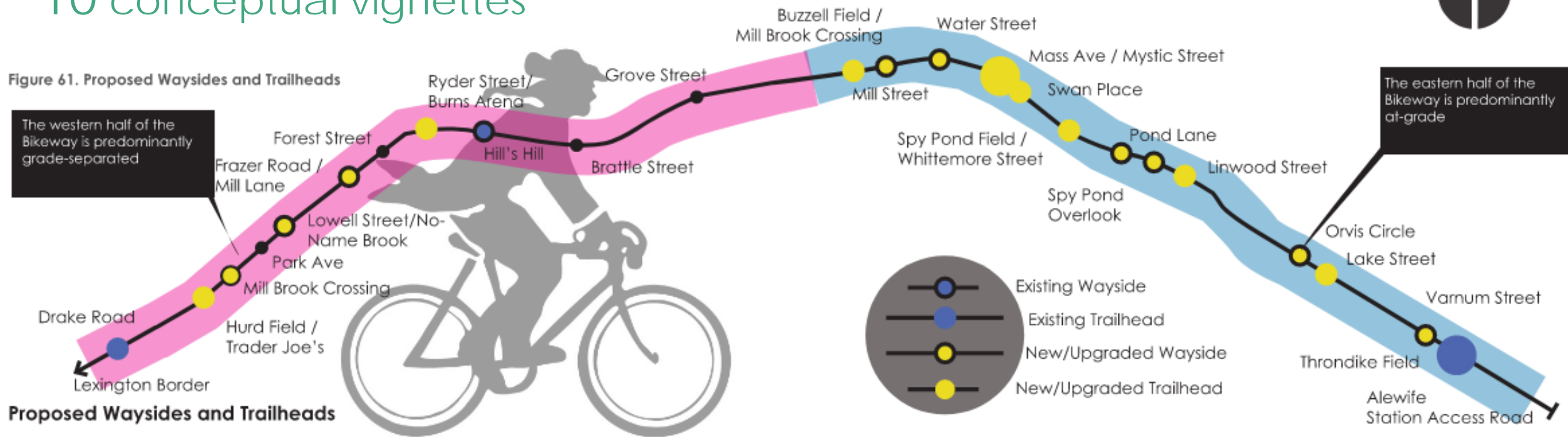
What is in the plan?



- 9 opportunities identified for new or upgraded waysides
- 8 opportunities identified for new or upgraded trailheads
- 10 conceptual vignettes



Figure 61. Proposed Waysides and Trailheads



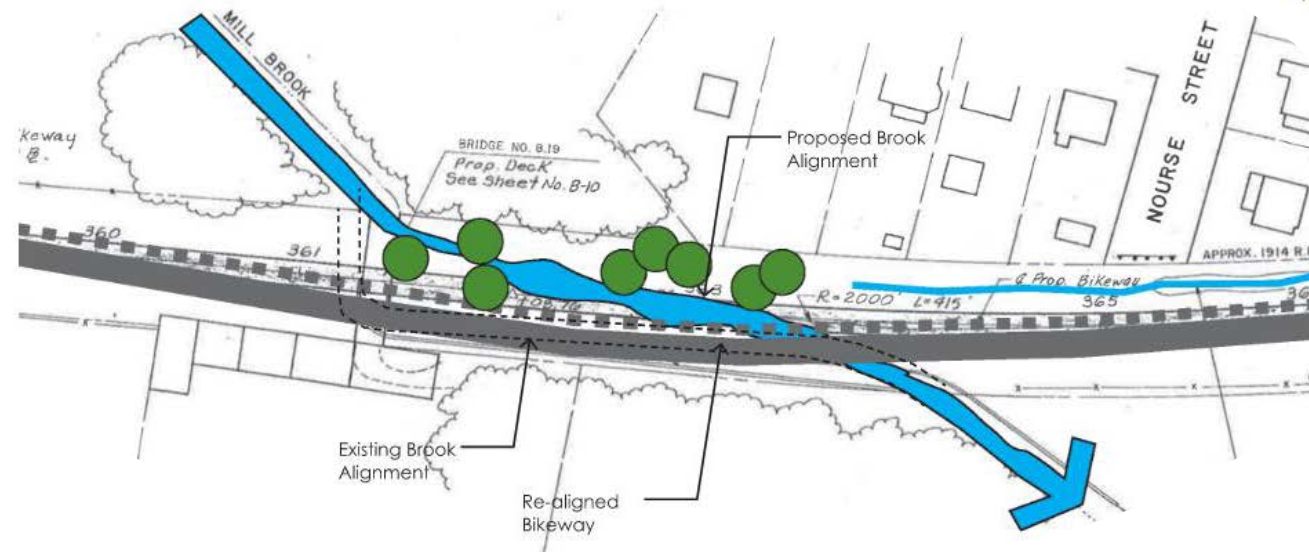
Waysides and Trailheads

Mill Brook Crossing Wayside Example



Wayside component opportunities:

- Interpretive kiosk wayfinding
- Seating
- Views
- Pull-off area
- Cultural, historical, or educational exhibits
- Natural areas



Opportunities for Widening

What is in the plan?



- Investigation of right-of-way availability
- Discussion of potential widening types
- Assessment of topography and potential for widening with ground plan manipulation
- Corridor-wide assessment of opportunities for widening
- Strategies for managing demand without widening



Figure 45. Widening via maintenance

1. Symmetrical



Netherlands
Image Source: <https://bicycledutch.wordpress.com/2020/08/12/cycle-lanes-in-the-netherlands/>

2. Asymmetrical



Sweden
Image Source: <https://visitsweden.com/what-to-do/nature-outdoors/biking/enjoy-day-your-bike-sweden/>



Nigeria
Image Source: <https://omoni.wordpress.com/2012/11/04/nigeria-introduces-bike-lanes-bars-okada/>



Guimaraes, Portugal
Image Source: <https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQ8iKGT0m1kcRbM8n1pXZK9SFX-9X76ZVSeofbQAOw-ZDpeWJ038elwvnc3HwW&usqp=CAU>



Somerville Community Path
Image Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somerville_Community_Path

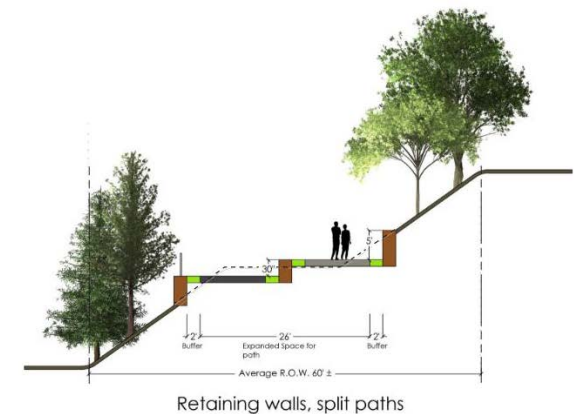
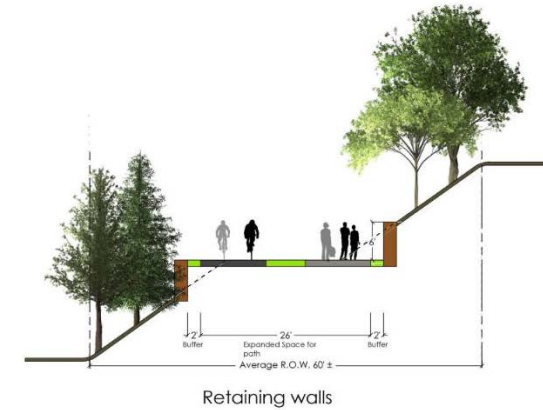
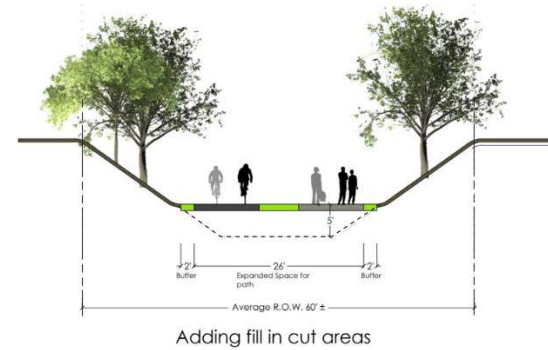
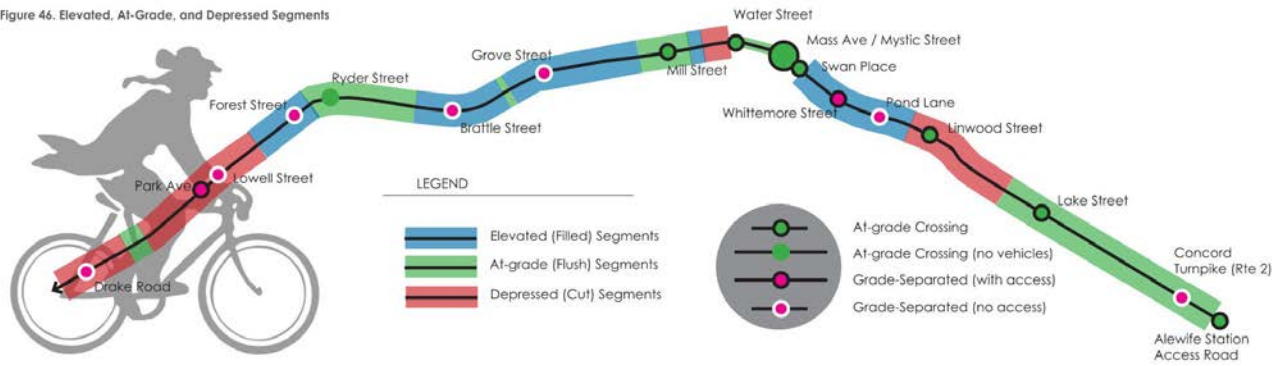


Boulder, Colorado
Image Source: <https://bouldercoloredo.gov/services/bike>

Opportunities for Widening Topography and Ground Plane Manipulation Example



Figure 46. Elevated, At-Grade, and Depressed Segments



Expanding and Improving Access

What is in the plan?



- Opportunities to upgrade or create new access points including:
 - Surrounding sidewalk network
 - Stairs and ramps
 - Accessibility improvements
 - Coordinating with other on-going projects
 - Design consistency guidance
- Conceptual design recommendations for at-grade street crossings



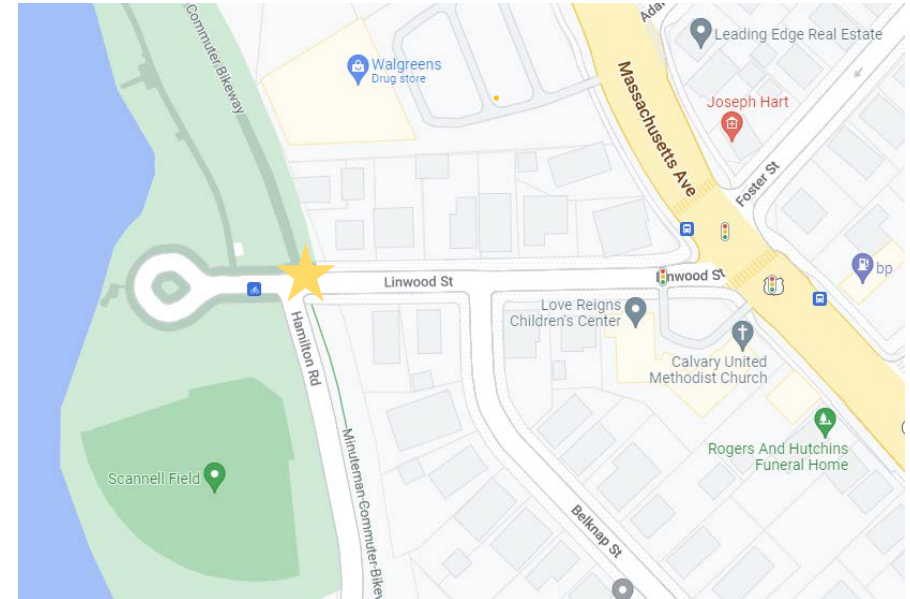
Short and long-term recommendations for enhancing access at Grove Street

Improving At-Grade Street Crossings

Linwood Street Crossing Example



- Install raised intersection and curb extensions
 - Slow driver speeds
 - Improve sight lines
 - Shorten crossing
- Consider advance detection device on the Bikeway
- Install additional detectable warning panels
- Evaluate turning counts, speeds, and volumes



Spy
Pond

Install trail blazers to connect Bikeway and Business District on Massachusetts Avenue, including at Linwood Street/Massachusetts Avenue intersection

Cut back vegetation to improve sight lines

Install additional tactile warning panels across the width of the path and on the northern sidewalk

Install raised intersection

Linwood Street

Maintain raised, concrete sidewalk across driveway and Minuteman to reinforce pedestrian priority

Extend curb to reduce crossing distance and improve sight distance

Maintain stop control on Bikeway. Evaluate whether ROW priority can be given to Bikeway.

Evaluate frequency of right turn movements from Hamilton Road onto Linwood Street

Refresh centerline on both approaches

- Landmark Pylon
- Secondary Pylon
- Locational Kiosk
- Trail Blazer
- Interpretive Kiosk

Linwood Street Crossing

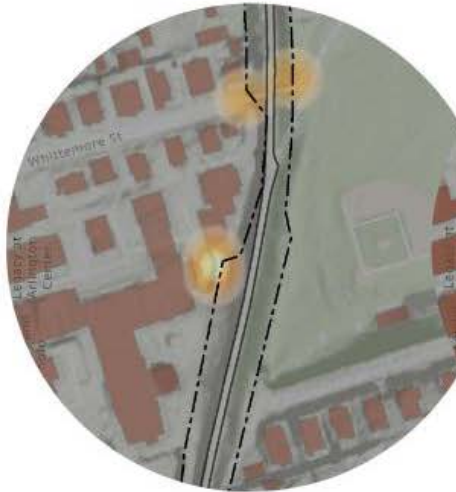


Lighting

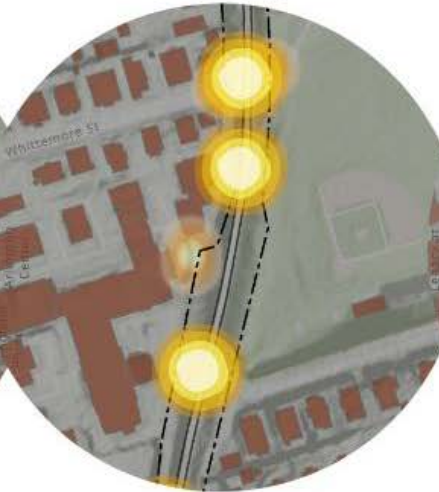


- Guidance on lighting types and light distribution
- Corridor-wide lighting options

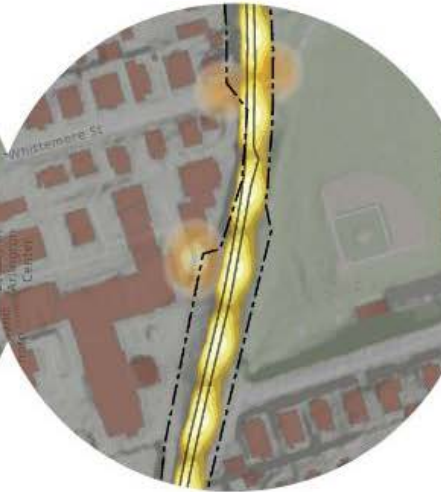
OPTION 1 –
EXISTING LIGHTING



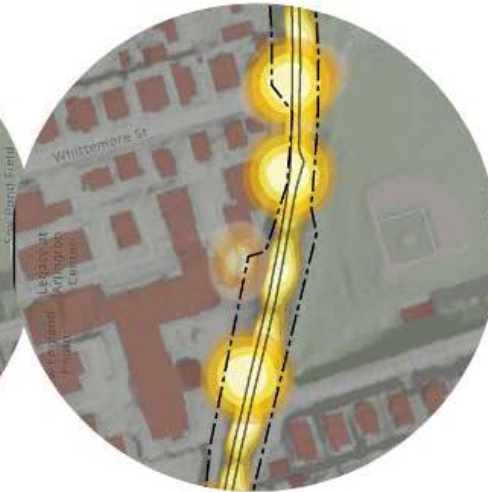
OPTION 2 –
SPOT LIGHTING



OPTION 3 –
CONTINUOUS LIGHTING



OPTION 1 –
COMBINED LIGHTING



Implementation Plan



- List of project opportunities
- Level of investment and timeline
- Programming opportunities
- Funding sources
- Administrative strategies

High School to Mystic Street

Project Type & Description	Location	Investment	Timeline
Expanding and improving access Improve access to and from Summer Street	Summer Street	\$\$\$	Long-term
Expanding and improving access Implement formalized connection to and from Arlington High School, to provide access to school and Mill Brook path (in process)	Arlington High School	\$	Short-term
Improving road crossings Implement proposed improvements at Mill Street intersection (see Chapter 5)	Mill Street	\$-\$\$	Short- to Medium-term
Creating an immersive experience Construct wayside overlook and improved interaction with Mill Brook. Improve connection to and from Cookes Hollow and Mill Brook path.	Buzzell Field/Mill Brook Crossing	\$\$-\$\$\$	Long-term
Improving road crossings Implement proposed improvements at Water Street intersection (see Chapter 5)	Water Street	\$	Short- to Medium-term

passing benches unsafe Trader Joe's Heights dogs
lights knotweed love biking cross
traffic difficult school lighting
Mass Ave Spy Pond yield parking invasive safety
signage children Alewife roots dark safe plants
transportation Grove widening limit narrow fast commute speed
between turn vehicles rules safely walking
businesses Park trees trash Lake lane cars trees
safer community crossings scooters nice summer trail overgrown issue
walk electric road good speeding maintenance removal Lexington water crowded
road good speeding maintenance removal Lexington water crowded
night ride problem winter Center stop
Mill e-bikes better intersection space art
Thorndike

Q&A



Questions? Contact Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner, at Damstutz@town.Arlington.ma.us

Thank you!



Thank you for sharing your experiences and vision for the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington.

Here are other ways to stay involved:

1. Read the Existing Conditions Analysis at [Chapter 1: Existing Conditions](#)
2. Visit the project website at arlingtonma.gov/abac and stay tuned for the publishing of the plan
3. If you have questions about the project, please contact Daniel Amstutz, Senior Transportation Planner, Department of Planning and Community Development at Damstutz@town.Arlington.ma.us